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“Who is Satan?”

Isaiah 14

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Everyone understands that there is evil in our world, but what or who is behind evil? In Isaiah 14, God revealed that the who, was Satan. Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 provide two of the most descriptive Scriptures about Satan. Why do we need to understand his background, tactics, and ultimate demise? We need to be aware of the fact that he is on the prowl to attack us, discourage us, deceive us, and tempt us. We should be encouraged about the fact that God outlined in Scripture how we are to take our stand against the devil. In this message, Pastor Gary teaches about Satan’s identity, what caused his fall, what his ultimate fate will be, and how we are to contend against him.

## Babylon

1. Isaiah wrote about Babylon approximately one hundred years before Babylon became a world power.
2. The city of Babylon is mentioned 260 times in the Bible, which means that it’s mentioned more times than any other city except Jerusalem.
3. Babylon and Jerusalem are always shown in contrast.
  - a. Jerusalem is always seen as a city of peace and salvation, as well as the city of God.
  - b. Babylon is always seen as the city of war, evil, unrest, world systems, and humanism.
4. Babylon was built by Nimrod, who was not a godly man.
  - a. [Genesis 10:10](#) - *“The first centers of [Nimrod’s] kingdom were Babylon, Erech, Akkad and Calneh, in Shinar.”*
5. The Tower of Babel was built in the city of Babylon, and the first occult worship

took place there. <sup>1</sup>

6. The last time the city of Babylon is mentioned in the Bible we learn that it will have been rebuilt to be the center of one world government, one world religion, and one world economy. <sup>2</sup>
7. Pastor Gary said: “[Babylon is always spoken of as the center of the evil world system.] The place where humanism and demonic things and occult worship [take place]. Isaiah gives us a glimpse [of] what is behind all [of these things], and in particular, who is behind all [of these things]. And, it is nonother than Satan. [What] we find nestled here in Isaiah 14 is [a] veiled reference... to Satan. ... And what God causes [Isaiah] to do is to use the king of Babylon as a type or a picture of Satan. So, the king of Babylon was a real guy, but he was a ruthless guy, [and] a pagan guy, and he was an enemy of God, and so there is an immediate context to this story where he [would] be overthrown and God [would deal] with him. ... [This is really about] Satan because he is the power behind [the] king of Babylon [and] all evil world systems.”
8. Pastor Gary said: “[Satan] is not the opposite of God, because God has no equal. ... Satan is opposed to everything concerning God and he’s opposed to everything that God loves; including [us]. [God loves us] so much [that] he put [into] motion a plan to redeem [us] from this sinful, wicked world, [to] rescue [us] from the kingdom of darkness [and to] take us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. God always has our best interest at heart. ... Satan doesn’t have [our] best interest at heart. Because [we] look like our Father and [we] are loved by [our] Father, Satan hates [us], and he wants to destroy [our] lives, and he wants to destroy [our marriages], and he wants to kill [our children], and he wants to wreck [our businesses]. He wants to do everything he can to discourage and to deceive and to tempt [us to sin against God]. ... He’s not oblivious to Scripture. He knows Scripture! ... Satan knows his ultimate demise, so he’s on a course of trying to take as many people with him as possible. He wants [us]. He wants [us] to be with him, not with God. He wants [us] to spend eternity with him in the lake of fire, not to go to heaven and spend eternity with [our] heavenly Father. Satan is at work, [and] he’s a real, [and] formidable foe. ... There is a real enemy of [our] souls. [When we know how he works and operates, we will be better off, but we also] need to find our confidence in the Lord and know who we are in Christ. [We] need to rest in the Lord and not be fearful but be aware.”
  - a. **John 10:10** – *“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”*

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<sup>1</sup> Genesis 11:1-9

<sup>2</sup> Revelation 17-18

## Biblical Titles/Names For Satan

9. Satan (Adversary)
  - a. [Job 1:6](#) - *"One day the angels came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them."*
10. The Devil (False Accuser/Slanderer)
  - a. [Matthew 4:1](#) - *"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil."*
11. The Tempter
  - a. [1 Thessalonians 3:5](#) - *"For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter might have tempted you and our efforts might have been useless."*
12. The Wicked One
  - a. [Matthew 13:19a](#) - *"When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart."*
13. The accuser of the Brothers
  - a. [Revelation 12:10](#) - *"Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: 'Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night has been hurled down.'"*
14. The prince of this world
  - a. [John 12:31](#) - *"Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out."*
  - b. [John 14:30a](#) - *"I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming."*
  - c. [John 16:11](#) - *"... and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned."*
15. The ruler of the kingdom of the air
  - a. [Ephesians 2:2](#) - *"... in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient."*
16. The dragon
  - a. [Revelation 12:9](#) - *"The great dragon was hurled down - that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him."*

17. The serpent

- a. **Genesis 3:1a** - *“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made.”*

18. Lucifer

- a. **Isaiah 14:12** - *“How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!”*
- b. **Isaiah 14:12** - *“How you have fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!”* - NKJV
- c. The Latin word for *“morning star”* means light bearer.
- d. **2 Corinthians 11:14** - *“... for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.”*
- e. **Genesis 3:1a** - *“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made.”*
  - i. The Hebrew word for serpent means something that is glittery, which would also mean bronze, copper, or brass.
- f. **Ezekiel 28:13** - *“You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl.’ Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared.”*
- g. Pastor Gary said: “Jesus is called Morning Star... but note the difference. [Jesus] is the true light bearer. Satan was originally [created] to reflect the glory of God, [and] to reflect the true light.”
  - i. **Revelation 22:16** - *“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”*
- h. Pastor Gary said: “Satan was originally created as a guardian cherub; meaning a chief among angels, [but] because of his pride [he] rebelled against God and when he rebelled he led a rebellion, and as many as one-third of the angels [joined] him. [Now] Satan is head over this evil kingdom of fallen angels; also known as demons.”
  - i. **Ezekiel 28:14-17** - *“You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings.”*
  - ii. **Revelation 12:9** - *“The great dragon was hurled down - that ancient*

*serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.”*

- iii. **Luke 10:18** – “[Jesus] replied, ‘I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.’ ”

### Satan’s “I Will” Statements

- 19. **Isaiah 14:13-14** – *“You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’ ”* (Emphasis added)
  - a. Pastor Gary said: “Satan had a desire to be in charge; to usurp the authority of God. ... [Contrast] that with the spirit of Jesus, who... took on the very nature of a servant [and] humbled himself [by condescending] to our level to be like us and to die for us. ... He did [this] out of his heart for us. ... Listen, a Luciferian spirit never wants to be subject to authority. [Notice] the spirit of Jesus [who] was always submissive to the will of the Father. He didn’t do or say anything except what the Father told him to say and how to say it. He was constantly on a mission to please the Father [and] to obey the Father [and] to submit to the Father. ... [This] is a reminder to us that whatever structure God has [us] placed in [we] should honor that authority structure, because a Luciferian spirit is one that says, ‘I’m anti-authority [anti-God, anti-structure], and I want to be in charge.’ ”
    - i. **Philippians 2:5-11** – *“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*
  - b. Stars refers to angels.
    - i. **Revelation 12:4a** – *“His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth.”*
  - c. The “*mount of assembly*” refers to Jerusalem.
    - i. Jesus will rule and reign from Jerusalem in the coming Millennial Kingdom.
  - d. Clouds refers to people.
    - i. **Hebrews 12:1** – *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses...”*

- e. "We are never more like the devil than when we touch the glory." – Billy Graham
20. Satan will be defeated!
- a. [Isaiah 14:15-19](#) – *"But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit. Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: 'Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble, the man who made the world a desert, who overthrew its cities and would not let his captives go home?' All the kings of the nations lie in state, each in his own tomb. But you are cast out of your tomb like a rejected branch; you are covered with the slain, with those pierced by the sword, those who descend to the stones of the pit. Like a corpse trampled underfoot."*
- b. [Revelation 20:10](#) – *"And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever."*

### Our Stand Against Satan

21. Resist
- a. [1 Peter 5:8-9](#) – *"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. **Resist him, standing firm in the faith**, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings."*  
(Emphasis added)
22. Remember
- a. Remember that God's power in us is greater than Satan's power around us.
- b. [1 John 4:4](#) – *"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."*
- c. Pastor Gary said: "Satan's power is great and should not be underestimated, but God is greater still and [he] has subdued Satan by the cross, so that God's power is effective in us against the enemy of our souls. He's not completely powerless [yet], but he has been rendered ineffective [concerning] the Believer who knows and has the power of God operating in [his or her life]."
23. Rely
- a. Rely on Scripture to be the weapon we use against the enemy.
- b. [Ephesians 6:17](#) – *"Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."*
- c. Jesus quoted Scripture when the devil came against him, and he used the Word of God to thwart each temptation until the enemy withdrew.
- i. [Matthew 4:11](#) – *"Then the devil left him..."*

- d. Pastor Gary said: "Do you want the devil to leave you alone? Know Scripture, quote Scripture, stand on Scripture, live out Scripture, and let the Word of God be the sword of the Spirit that defends you against the enemy of your [soul]."

#### 24.Rebuke

- a. Rebuke him "in the Lord".
- b. **Jude 9** - *"But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, 'The Lord rebuke you!' "*
- c. You and I have no power against the enemy, it's only the power in the Lord that we have against the enemy.
- d. Whenever the enemy tries to attack, always put God in the lead, make sure you are following *after* Jesus, using Scripture as Jesus exemplified, and the example given here by the archangel Michael, we need to say, *"The Lord rebuke you!"*

### Discussion Questions

1. Read **Isaiah 13:19-22, 14:3-6, 12-20a** to provide a foundation for your Bible study time.
2. Read and discuss Pastor Gary's remarks about Babylon. (See #1 - #6 above)
3. Read and discuss John 10:10 and Pastor Gary's comments about Satan. (See #8 above)
4. Spend time talking about the Scriptures that provide the titles/names of Satan. (See #9 - 17 above)
5. Spend time reviewing and discussing the Scriptures Pastor Gary shared concerning Lucifer. (See #18 above)
6. Spend time discussing Satan's "I Will" statements and how he will ultimately be defeated. (See #19 and #20 above)
7. A primary focus of discussion for your K-Group meeting should be Pastor Gary's outline concerning the ways we can take our stand against the enemy of our souls. (See #21 - #24 above)
8. Close your time in prayer as the Holy Spirit leads.

\* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New International Version (NIV 1984)